

# Dendara as a Counterpart of Heliopolis in Ptolemaic Texts

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## **Abstract**

The relationship between the two famous cities Heliopolis and Dendara is very strong. This relationship is shown in the similar names *Iwnw* and *Iwnt*. The Ptolemaic texts give a special relationship between those two cities as they make both of them equal, considering Dendara as the Upper Egyptian female counterpart of the northern Heliopolis. The texts of Dendara Temple emphasize that Dendara of the south replaces and takes the place of Heliopolis of the north; the relationship is also mentioned in the common name of Dendara *T3-n-Itmw* that means ‘The Land of Atum’ who is the traditional god of Heliopolis. The aim of this paper is to examine special texts quoted from Dendara and other temples and discuss its significance. It is worth mentioning that the Egyptian language used a lot of synonyms for the idea of replacement and equals. Such as *m-isw*; *m-db3w*; *m-idnw*.